

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 9, 2019

Governor JB Pritzker
Office of the Governor
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Pritzker,

We write concerning the State of Illinois' ineligibility for FY2018 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant program (PDM) funding administered through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). As you may know, Congress created the PDM program to provide communities with funding to implement hazard reduction measures and disaster preparation activities such as acquiring and relocating properties out of a flood plain, elevating structures in a flood plain, flood-proofing public buildings, and constructing or converting public spaces into "safe rooms" in tornado-prone areas.

Notably, in the nearly two decades that FEMA has administered the PDM program, the federal government has provided communities across Illinois with more than \$11 million dollars to prepare for natural disasters. Moreover, there are currently 15 projects worth approximately \$15.8 million (federal share) selected for further consideration for FY2017.


Unfortunately, on March 15, FEMA Region V notified our offices of the State's failure to submit a timely application rendering Illinois ineligible to receive PDM funding. Specifically, it is our understanding that though the State's application was submitted on January 30, 2019, necessary revisions were not made before the January 31, 2019 deadline.

Given the recent severe flooding throughout Illinois, as well as the State's dire financial situation, it is concerning to learn that Illinois is ineligible for PDM funding next year. The resources from this program are invaluable to many of the communities we represent. As such, we respectfully submit the following questions and request your reply as soon as possible:

1. How and why did your administration fail to submit its PDM application?
2. What steps will your administration take to ensure this error is not repeated in future years?
3. How does the administration plan to assist the communities that rely on this program to help them mitigate future flooding and other natural disasters?

We thank you for considering our questions and concerns. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



John Shimkus
Member of Congress

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Bost'.

Mike Bost
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Darin LaHood'.

Darin LaHood
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adam Kinzinger'.

Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress